

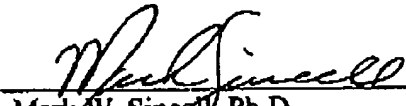
REMARKS

Claims 4-5 and 17 have been canceled. Thus, claims 1-3, 6-16, and 18-24 are pending in the present application. In the Office Action, the Examiner indicated that claims 5 and 7-13 include allowable subject matter. Independent claims 1 and 15 have been amended to include subject matter set forth in claim 5. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the pending claims are in condition for allowance and request that the Examiner's rejections of claims 1-4, 6, and 14-24 be withdrawn.

For the aforementioned reasons, it is respectfully submitted that all claims pending in the present application are in condition for allowance. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (713) 934-4052 with any questions, comments or suggestions relating to the referenced patent application.

Respectfully submitted,

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